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ILMINSTER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present a Report of the Sanitary Conditions of the Ilminster Urban District for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

There was again little or no unemployment in the District during the year, the local industries at once absorbing any labour available from time to time.

The year was a healthy one on the whole except for an outbreak of Measles. Fifty six cases were notified but the great majority were mild in character and without complications. There were no deaths from this disease.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS.

|              | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Total        | 16           | 36             |
| Legitimate   | 16           | 35             |
| Illegitimate | -            | 1              |

STILL BIRTHS.

|              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| Total        | 1 | 2 |
| Legitimate   | - | 2 |
| Illegitimate | 1 | - |

Deaths of children under  
1 year of age.

1 -

Under one week - 1. (1 - 4 weeks) NIL (1 - 6 months) NIL  
6 - 12 months) NIL

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES.

|                                      |    |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|----|
| Total                                | 20 | 17 |
| <u>Causes of Deaths.</u>             |    |    |
| Respiratory Tuberculosis.            | 2  | -  |
| Cancer.                              | 5  | 3  |
| Inter Cranial Lesions.               | 1  | 2  |
| Heart Disease.                       | 1  | 4  |
| Other Diseases of Circulatory System | 4  | -  |
| Bronchitis.                          | 1  | 1  |
| Pneumonia.                           | -  | 1  |
| Other Respiratory Diseases.          | 1  | 1  |
| Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.       | 1  | -  |
| Appendicitis.                        | 1  | -  |
| Nephritis.                           | 1  | -  |
| Congenital, Malformations, Etc.      | 1  | -  |
| Road Traffic.                        | -  | 1  |
| Other Violent Causes.                | 1  | 1  |
| All other causes.                    | -  | 3  |
|                                      | 20 | 17 |
|                                      | -  | -  |

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE OTHER THAN  
TUBERCULOSIS.

| <u>Disease.</u> | <u>Total Cases<br/>Notified.</u> | <u>Cases<br/>admitted to<br/>Hospital.</u> | <u>Total<br/>Deaths.</u> |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Scarlet Fever.  | 4                                | -1                                         | -                        |
| Measles.        | 56                               | -                                          | -                        |
| Whooping Cough  | 11                               | -                                          | -                        |
| Pneumonia.      | 2                                | -                                          | 1                        |
| Diphtheria.     | -                                | -                                          | -                        |

I am pleased to report that there were again no cases of diphtheria and that there is a high proportion of immunised children in the area and the Diphtheria Prophylactic Immunisation is carried out at regular intervals.

#### SCABIES.

There have again been very few cases of Scabies in the area during the year. Any that have occurred have been treated at home. Contacts examined and kept under supervision until the disease was eradicated.

|                   | <u>Tuberculosis<br/>Total cases notified.</u> | <u>Total<br/>Deaths.</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Respiratory       | 2                                             | 2                        |
| Non - Respiratory | -                                             | -                        |

#### WATER SUPPLIES.

The Town Public supply has been sufficient in quantity and has given satisfactory bacteriological analysis after chlorination, the raw water has however given fairly high bacteriological contents on several occasions showing the need for unremitting attention to the process of Chlorination.

A sample of water from a well supplying four cottages in a proposed Clearance Area was found to be contaminated. The well was at once closed and replaced by a stand pipe pending the evacuation of the cottages.

#### SEWERAGE.

No alterations were made with respect to Sewerage during 1947.

#### MILK SUPPLY.

|     |                                              |    |
|-----|----------------------------------------------|----|
| (a) | Total number of Registered Dairy Farms.      | 7  |
| (b) | Total number of Retailers.                   | 4  |
| (c) | Number of Producer Retailers included in "b" | 1  |
| (d) | Number of Licensed Pasterising Plants.       | 1. |

#### ICE CREAM.

|                                   |  |      |
|-----------------------------------|--|------|
| Number of premises registered for |  |      |
| (a) Manufacture.                  |  | Nil. |
| (b) Sale.                         |  | 2    |

#### HOUSING.

There is still a house shortage in the district as elsewhere.

The following is an estimation of the requirements.

|     |                                                                                                             |     |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (a) | To replace those unfit.                                                                                     | 50  |
| (b) | To abate overcrowding.                                                                                      | 10  |
| (c) | Where conditions are unsatisfactory<br>e.g. Two families living in one<br>house not included in (a) and (b) | 30  |
| (d) | Total number of applicants for the<br>year.                                                                 | 256 |

|                     | Houses erected<br>during year. |      | House in course of<br>erection. |      | Conversion<br>to Flats or<br>Dwellings. |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------------|
|                     | Perm                           | Temp | Perm                            | Temp |                                         |
| Local Authority     | 12                             |      | 28                              |      |                                         |
| Private Enterprise. | ~                              |      | ~                               |      | Nil                                     |
| Totals.             | 12                             |      | 28                              |      | Nil                                     |

#### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

These have been regularly inspected and found to be in a satisfactory condition.

I am, Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

C. C. COURT, M.B., Ch.B.,  
D.P.H.

15th November, 1948.

Medical Officer of Health,  
Ilminster Urban District.

